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From: Refugio JIC
Sent: Mon 6/8/2015 3:21:04 PM
Subject: Morning Media Scan 6-8-15

Daily Monitoring Report

June 8, 2015

ANALYSIS & EMERGING ISSUES

● Oil Spill “Extremely Unlikely”

o According to The Associated Press, as reported in [The Guardian](#), Plains statement attempted to assure government that the occurrence of the May 19 oil spill was possible, but highly unlikely. It reported that the company said they had a state-of-the-art monitoring that could quickly detect possible leaks and alert operators in case of a problem.

o Although the company acknowledged the potential for a leak, it said it always had detailed inspections and defense systems set in place. A team of experts organized by the company assessed the risk as remote, AP reports.

● Incident Response Plan

o In the same AP piece, Kristen Monsell, an attorney with the Center for Biological Diversity, said the response plan’s list of endangered species was at least 20 years outdated and the company fell short in following through with its requirements.

- o Senator Barbara Boxer stated in response to the investigation underway, “We need to find out if the company lived up to the promises of its oil spill response plan. I’m concerned that they may not have moved quickly enough to detect and report the spill, which could have exacerbated the environmental damage.”

- o Although the company claims to have a thorough defense plan, Guardian reports, people are questioning whether Plains all American Pipeline followed its own extensive protocol to prevent the biggest oil spill to happen in California coastal area in over 25 years.

- o The same AP story also ran in these following publications: ABC News, CBS Los Angeles, The Sacramento Bee, Times Free Press and others.

•■■■■■■■■ Celebrity Reaction

- o According to the Daily Mail, Flea, a member of the Red Hot Chili peppers, was upset after taking his daughter to the beach about 75 miles away from where an underground pipe operated by Plains All American Pipeline leaked near Santa Barbara. He expressed his frustration on a Facebook rant to voice his opinion to the oil pipeline company.

•■■■■■■■■ Clean Up

- o The LA Times reported that a four-mile stretch of coastline in Long Beach has been reopened after removing 55 gallons of tar balls from the shore.

- o Coverage from ABC News states that 44 percent of the 96.5 mile coastline affected by the Refugio Oil Spill has been cleaned up. Cobbled beaches are left to tend to and are a more intensive effort compared to sandy beaches.

- o The necessary conditions for a shoreline to be considered clean are mentioned by KSBY, including specific percentages of oil and tar balls that must be cleaned to reach the required goal. Twelve sections of shoreline have been marked as clean.

•■■■■■■■■ Discrepancies in Extent of Corrosion

- o According to the Santa Barbara Independent, the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration reported corrosion of the pipeline as 82 percent corroded while Plains All American Pipeline had recorded it as 45 percent corroded two weeks before the spill.

- o In reference to the tools used to inspect a pipeline, Plains safety director Patrick Hodgins states, “These tools return data that typically requires months of analysis to generate actionable findings. In many cases, we conduct confirmation digs to correlate the information from the inline inspection tool with the condition of the pipe below the surface. In the industry, we refer to this proactive maintenance activity as ‘pigs and

digs.”

- o Plains declined to name the vendor they used or to comment on the corrosion measurements. “The answers to your questions are part of an ongoing investigation, and for this reason, cannot be answered at this time,” said spokesperson Michael Eidman via email.

- **Plains PAA History of Spills**

- o [The LA Times](#) reported that Plains All American Pipeline has reported over a dozen spills since 2004, thought to be due in part by their acquirement of thousands of miles of aging pipeline nearly two decades ago.

- o Plains spokesman Roy Lamoreaux said the previous owners of the pipelines didn't always maintain them diligently, and the process of bringing newly acquired lines up to Plains' standards often takes years. Many of the firms' larger spills "occurred during the transition period," Lamoreaux said.

- o Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration's records show that only four companies reported more incidents than Plains.

- **Exxon**

- o [Santa Barbara Independent](#) continues coverage on Exxon's attempts to transport oil by truck.

PRINT/ONLINE COVERAGE

[Santa Barbara Independent –Huge Discrepancy in Pipeline Corrosion Measurements \(6.5.15\)](#)

[Santa Barbara Independent –Political Reaction to Refugio Oil Spill Continues \(6.6.15\)](#)

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[Santa Barbara Independent –ExxonMobil Submits Emergency Application to Truck Oil \(6.5.15\)](#)

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[LA Times – Beaches reopen after crews remove tar balls on Long Beach coast \(6.5.15\)](#)

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LA Times –Owner of ruptured oil pipeline has history of big spills, fines (6.5.15)

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The Associated Press – Pipeline firm told California oil spill 'extremely unlikely' (6.7.15)

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•██████████ The Guardian – Texas company in California oil spill said leak was 'extremely unlikely' (6.7.15)

•██████████ ABC News – Pipeline Firm Told California Oil Spill 'Extremely Unlikely' (6.7.15)

•██████████ CBS Los Angeles – Pipeline Firm Told California Oil Spill 'Extremely Unlikely' (6.7.15)

•██████████ The Sacramento Bee – Pipeline firm told California oil spill 'extremely unlikely' (6.7.15)

•██████████ Times Free Press – Pipeline firm told California oil spill extremely unlikely (6.7.15)

•██████████ And others

ABC News – Crews Say 44 Percent of California Coast Oil Spill Cleaned (6.7.15)

The Daily Mail – Chili Peppers star Flea hits out at California oil spill company after his daughter's feet were covered in oil at the beach (6.7.15)

The Daily Californian – Oil spill in Santa Barbara affects university-owned natural reserve (6.7.15)

KSBY- Refugio Oil Response teams say 12 sections of shoreline have met clean-up goals (6.7.15)

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SOCIAL MEDIA INSIGHTS

- Coverage of the incident garnered 1,015 online mentions over the past 24 hours, a 38% decrease from the previous day:
 - Twitter: 640
 - News: 294
 - Blogs: 20
 - Images: 22
 - Forums: 25
 - Facebook: 6
 - Other: 8
- Top Stories:
 - 'Break in Pipeline Was "Extremely Unlikely," Santa Barbara Oil Spill Company Told CA Regulators' – NBC Los Angeles
 - 26 Twitter mentions generated 407,006 impressions
 - 'Chili Peppers star Flea hits out at California oil spill company after his daughter's feet were covered in oil at the beach' – Daily Mail
 - 26 Twitter mentions generated 131,842 impressions
 - "Dear plains all American pipeline, my daughter just dared step on the beach for a few minutes where... BLOCKEDinstagram[.]com/p/3mOTyjGt1u/BLOCKED" @flea333
 - 75 Twitter mentions generated 99,186 impressions